

Frankford Arsenal, Building 309
South of Hagner Road to west of Clay Street
Philadelphia
Philadelphia County
Pennsylvania

HAER No. PA-74AF

HAER
PA.
51-PHILA.
693-AF-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
Mid-Atlantic Regional Office
National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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Location: South of Hagner Road to west of Clay Street
Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania

Quad: Frankford

Date of Construction: 1953

Significance: Building 309 is associated with the continued growth of Frankford Arsenal, the United States Army's principal manufacturer of small arms ammunition, during the twentieth century.

Historian: Patrick W. O'Bannon
Principal Historian
John Milner Associates, Inc.
1216 Arch Street, 5th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

HISTORY

Built in 1953 for testing propellant-actuated devices, Building 309 was most recently used as an ordnance facility.

DESCRIPTION

Building 309 is an open tower, made of fabricated steel trusses on a concrete base. Steel stairs rise from alternate corners to ten steel-grate stair platforms. Testing platforms and pulley tracks are located to the east and west of the tower. Winch motors located on the concrete base enable cable to be wound along the pulley tracks.

SOURCE

John Milner Associates, "Historical and Archeological Survey of Frankford Arsenal," West Chester, PA: John Milner Associates, 1979.

Report prepared for the Department of the Army, Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers, Baltimore, Maryland. Copies on file at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia Free Library, and the Philadelphia Historical Commission.

For complete overview of site, see HAER No. PA-74.

